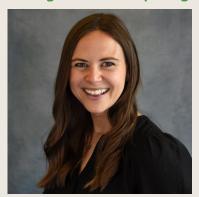




# Thought Leadership Blog



If you're gearing up for 2024 and ready to job-hunt or network, you'll want to update your LinkedIn presence. Our Director of Communications, Abby Swalga, offers the top five ways to update your LinkedIn page on our blog now.

# Thank you, Clearview Federal Credit Union!



On Sunday, Dec. 10, Clearview Federal Credit Union and the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater treated some of our RISE clients to an

# Celebrating 30 years, Lifting 30 women higher



On Giving Tuesday, we were humbled to see that a quarter of all gifts made that day came from current and former program participants.

"I just wanted to give back to an organization that has given me so much. I wanted to help another woman in our community," one client said.

Before the end of the year, we have a goal of raising \$15,000 to provide 30 women with critical career development services. Thanks to our generous community and clients we are more than halfway there!

# Will you make a life-changing donation that will help more women on their path to success?

Please consider joining our clients and others by making your own gift to support your neighbors in finding quality employment. Your gift of ANY amount helps - whether it's \$5 or \$500.

Join us as we rally together to lift 30 women higher in 2024. Give now.

afternoon at the Nutcracker Ballet. Our program participants and their children had a blast at the show and touring behind the scenes at the Benedum Center.

# Circle of Hope



At this year's <u>Circle of Hope</u>, more than 350 of you joined us as we celebrated our 30th anniversary. Your participation helped raise over \$140,000 to support job-seeking women throughout our community. Whether you participated in our silent auction, raffles, bought a ticket or made a donation, thank you for your support.

Special thanks to this year's Executive Sponsor, PNC Bank.

## Welcome, Kate Beck



PA Women Work recently welcomed **Kate Beck** to our staff as our new Administrative Coordinator. In her role, Kate supports our entire organization with critical administrative and office management support.

When asked why Kate wanted to work with PA Women Work she said: "I have been laid off a couple times in my life, and it is

# New programming offered in 2023

As we inch closer to the end of the year, here's a look back at some of the new and refreshed programs we offered in 2023:



Power Up Connections:

This year, we launched a new networking event. Power Up Connections is an opportunity to celebrate our program participants, while offering a space for them to network with

local partner organizations, employers and training providers. Our first Power Up Connections event was held in July, and we just hosted a second one this week.



Career Kick-Start: In order to meet job-seekers who might be on a tighter timeline with their employment search, we introduced Career Kick-Start. This one-day career development event is jam-packed with career

coaching, interview practice, employer connections and more. This year, we teamed up with both Senator Camera Bartolotta in Washington County and Representative Jill Cooper in Westmoreland County to host this program.



Launch Entrepreneurship: In partnership with Paramount Pursuits, we presented Launch: Entrepreneurship, a program to support those looking to start their own business.

The two-day workshop provided an opportunity for participants to work on a business plan and ask questions about getting their own business up and running.

Introducing...Empowerment in the Workplace! Yes, there's more! On January 20, 2024, we will host our first-ever Empowerment in the Workplace workshop. This program is designed for women who are currently working but looking to advance their careers and overcome challenges in the workplace. Registration is currently full, but you can join the waitlist <a href="here">here</a>.

Feeling whole again: Jen's story

terrifying. I absolutely love the mentorship and confidence building this organization provides. I am a strong believer in women building their confidence and networking skills to help them land a job they will love and thrive in."

Welcome to the team, Kate! We are so happy to have you.

## **Upcoming classes**



#### **New Choices**

- January 8 12, M-F, 9:30
  a.m. 12:15 p.m.
- January 22 26, M-F, 6 8:45 p.m.
- February 5 9, M-F, 9:30 a.m. 12:15 p.m.

# Empowerment in the Workplace

Saturday, January 20, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

(Registration is full, but a waitlist is available.)

#### **Client Support Services**

Already a current or former PA Women Work client? You're eligible to <u>participate in the following virtual workshops</u> to help continue on your path to success.

#### A Closer Look

Tuesday, January 16, 10 - 11:30 a.m.: A New Year, A New Job – Learn from four previous clients on how they secured their current position.

If you're a current client, sign up for the above client services here.



After a successful start to her career, Jen made the tough decision to take a step back from work to raise her children and support her aging mother. Nearly 21 years later, Jen was ready to re-enter the workforce but was unsure where to begin.

"I was really intimidated. It threw my confidence for a loop," Jen said.

She discovered PA Women Work's 3 Cups of Coffee program and was connected with a volunteer mentor, Midori Vasquez. Feeling uncertain of what her next step should be, Jen and Midori worked together to revise her resume, discuss opportunities she'd be qualified for, and set achievable goals.

Shortly after beginning the program, Jen received a job offer. She said she looks forward to continuing her career growth and achieving her goals.

"Getting that acceptance letter allowed me to feel whole again. I felt like I did this. I did this for myself. I have had a smile on my face ever since," Jen said.

#### Watch Jen's full story here.

Thank you to our 3 Cups of Coffee funders: Arby's Foundation, Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation, CNX Foundation, J. Jill Compassion Fund, Arconic Foundation, Aerie Real Foundation, and United Way Community Impact Grants.

# Volunteer Spotlight: PNC Bank

# Thank you, funders!



Thank you to our funder, Ameriprise Financial, for their dedication to our organization. Ameriprise Financial's generosity supports job-seeking individuals across all our programs. These programs provide our clients job search and interview skills. opportunities to build their confidence, and help to set and achieve both professional and personal goals. With the support of companies like Ameriprise Financial, we help individuals find lasting employment that pays a family-sustaining wage through unique and life-changing programs.



The PNC Employee Volunteer Team, led by Amanda Giltinan, hit 100 volunteer hours this year!

"I was immediately drawn to PA Women Work's mission and the ways you give back to the community. I love that I can make an impact on the community while gaining valuable experience and skills," said Amanda Giltinan.

The PNC Foundation marked this momentous volunteer milestone by issuing a \$3,000 grant to PA Women Work through their Racial and Social Justice Grants Program, recognizing the efforts of employees who volunteer with nonprofits working to eliminate systemic racism and promote social justice.

PNC volunteers supported our mission in a number of ways this year, including: participating in our Circle of Hope event committee, leading a Financial Wellness workshop for clients, helping with fundraising efforts, serving as 3 Cups of Coffee mentors, and raising a hand for administrative tasks.

If you or your organization is interested in volunteering with PA Women Work, <u>click here</u>.

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